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## Academic Affairs Update August 25, 2017

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# Academic Affairs Weekly Update | Details for Cluster Day | August 25

## Office of Academic Affairs

Fri 8/25/2017 2:57 PM

To: Campus Communication <campus-communication@plymouth.edu>;

Dear Colleagues:

This has been an energizing week full of connections! On Monday, we welcomed 22 new faculty members to our community. Thanks to Kate Elvey, Brandon Haas, and Elisabeth Johnston for their planning and hosting of new faculty orientation.

On Wednesday, we kicked-off our University Days days. We hope you've found these three days of programming to be a valuable and meaningful experience! Nearly 300 of your faculty and staff colleagues registered for sessions in Sched. Thank you to all who helped with the planning and to our faculty and staff presenters for sharing their time and talents. We encourage everyone to provide appreciative and constructive feedback on the sessions you attended. In Sched, when you [click into each session](#), there is a feedback section below the location. Your feedback will help your colleagues as well as inform sessions for the year ahead, to include January Jamboree and next year's University Days.

This coming Monday is Cluster Day and representatives from each cluster have been actively planning how they will use the day. Cluster Day kicks off at 9:00 a.m. in Hanaway Theater. The focus of the day is to bring together faculty and staff that are affiliated with a cluster by virtue of their academic programs. Future campus meetings will explore cluster connections with staff not embedded in programs. If you are not sure which cluster you are affiliated with, you'll find a [list on the Integrated Clusters website](#).

Based on conversations with the President and faculty working on cluster leadership design this summer, a set of "structural givens" was recently developed. We recognize not all clusters are yet ready to delve into leadership design, but when you are, please consider the following:

### Cluster Structural Guidelines & Givens

1. The University will be fully transitioned to an administrative structure around Integrated Clusters by Fall 2019.
  - o All clusters will be at least piloting a leadership structure by Fall 2018.
  - o Chair role and departments will fade away by Spring 2019.
  - o There is no net new release time.
  - o There are no net new hires.
2. Cluster names cannot change except with the written approval of the President.
3. Once a year, there will be a period in time that substantive changes to clusters can be proposed. For instance, name, scope, and program movement. Mission statements may evolve over the course of the Fall 2017 semester. Approval process/level TBD.
4. We are in the infancy of how cluster/program/unit operational budgets will be built and managed. Campus collaborative meetings in Fall 2017 will explore budgeting.
5. We will pilot a prototype of a cluster support team for the TESD and J&S pilots to provide communication, partnerships & projects management, and instructional/cluster operations support. This model will inform support for future cluster launches.

Locations for Cluster Day meetings are listed below. Again, the day begins with a kick-off in the Silver Center at 9:00 a.m. followed by cluster-designed meetings beginning around 10:00 a.m. Snacks will be available in your team rooms. Many

cluster teams have already sent communications regarding specific schedules and plans for how they will use the day. Lunch will be served in Prospect Hall and tickets will be provided.

- Arts & Technologies – 113 Newfound Room, Prospect Hall
- Education, Democracy & Social Changes – Merrill Place MPRA
- Exploration & Discovery – Heritage Commons, Samuel Reed House
- Health & Human Enrichment – Welcome Center
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship – Merrill Place MPRB
- Justice & Security – Lamson Tower Room
- Tourism, Environment & Sustainable Development – Frost Commons

Finally, reports on progress from [summer work groups](#) are being finalized. We are compiling, organizing, and preparing to share these outcomes with you by creating a space on the clusters website for this content to live for near future reference. Additionally, a meeting is being planned for early September to meet with those that engaged in this important work to learn from their process and recommend how to continue moving these activities forward.

Sincerely,

The Academic Dean Team